

News Advisory

From the Rhode Island Judiciary



Court updates credit for volunteer attorneys in District Court landlord-tenant matters

February 18, 2021: The attorneys who volunteer for the Rhode Island District Court’s program to assist the court in the adjudication of tenancy and eviction cases during the pandemic will be able to apply two of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits they earn toward the ethics category, Chief Judge Jeanne E. LaFazia announced.

In anticipation of the expiration of certain pandemic-related benefits and assistance, the highly successful program has provided tenants facing eviction with legal advice at the courthouse in negotiating payment plans, move-out dates, or other tenancy matters just prior to their District Court hearings.

Attorneys who complete one hour of training and make five appearances as “friends of the court” on the landlord-tenant calendar are eligible to earn six mandatory CLE credits. With this update, two of those six credits may be applied toward the ethics requirement. Mandatory CLE credits are required annually of all active attorneys. Credits earned this year can be applied toward the requirements for 2022. Volunteers may contact the District Court judicial officer assigned to the tenancy and eviction calendar in their respective counties for more information.

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